

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOUREN 00773 091721Z

46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14

AID-20 SCCT-02 MC-02 ACDA-19 SY-04 A-01 M-02 OPR-02

OMB-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 OC-06 CCO-00 USSS-00 COME-00

EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 PC-04 CU-05 DRC-01

/211 W

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O 091530Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2862

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0773

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, MZ

SUBJ: SITREP NO. 4

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PAGE 02 LOUREN 00773 091721Z

1. AT PRESENT ACTION OF FREE MOZAMBIQUE MOVEMENT APPEARS CONFINED MAINLY TO LOURENCO MARQUES AND SURROUNDING AREA. ACCORDING TO BRITISH CONGEN, HE HAS DIRECT INFORMATION FROM BEIRA THAT LOYALIST TROOPS IN CONTROL THERE, ALBEIT SOMEWHAT PRECARIOUS. THEY USED TEAR GAS AND FIRED SHOTS OVER HEADS OF CROWD TRYING TO TAKE BEIRA RADIO STATION. CASUALTIES WERE CAUSED BY COUPLE OF BOMBS THROWN IN CROWD BY UNKNOWN. THIS INFORMATION SEEMS CONFIRMED BY BROADCASTS OF RADIO FREE MOZAMBIQUE ITSELF.

2. IN LOURENCO MARQUES SEVERAL HUNDRED, IF NOT MORE, ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORTERS OF FREE MOZAMBIQUE MOVEMENT CONTINUE TOUR CITY IN CARS, WAVING BANNERS AND HONKING HORNS. SOME OF THEM SEEM TO BE ARMED. MAIN CENTER OF ACTION IS IN FRONT OF RADIO CLUB OF MOZAMBIQUE WHICH CONTINUES TO BE OCCUPIED BY MOVEMENT WITH ARMS INSIDE BUILDING. COUPLE OF THOUSAND SUPPORTERS CONTINUE TO MASS OUTSIDE RADIO CLUB IN ORDER BLOCK ANY INTERVENTION BY PORTUGUESE MILITARY.

3. LT. COL. DIAS AND OTHER PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF GENERAL SPINOLA HAVE ALREADY HAD ONE SESSION, APPARENTLY WITH MOVEMENT PEOPLE, AT GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HOUSE AND REPORTEDLY ARE MEETING NOW WITH MOVEMENT LEADERS AT RADIO CLUB ITSELF. EARLIER PCN'S SIMANGO AND SIMIAO AND FICO'S DOS SANTOS, GRILO AND PIRES MOREIRA BRIEFED PRESS AT RCM.

4. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE IN SUBURBS WITH 2 TO 6 DEATHS, REPORTEDLY BOTH WHITES AND BLACKS. RADIO STATION AT MATOLA OUTSIDE CITY IS STILL HELD BY MOVEMENT SUPPORTERS WHO ARE USING SAME HUMAN CORDON TACTICS.

5. APPARENTLY SOME EX-COMMANDOS HAVE ARRIVED FROM ACROSS SOUTH AFRICAN BORDER, BUT WE DOUBT THAT THEY NUMBER MORE THAN A COUPLE OF HUNDRED.

6. WHILE STEVEDORES AND OTHER BLACK POPULATION WORKED MOST OF THE MORNING, MOST OF THEM HAVE GONE HOME. BOTH WHITE POPULATION (SOME 60,000 PORTUGUESE) AND BLACK POPULATION (OVER 400,000) ARE EXTREMELY APPREHENSIVE, DIFFERENCE BEING THAT MANY WHITES SEEM TO HAVE ARMS WHEREAS BLACKS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LOUREN 00773 091721Z

HAVE FEW. BLACKS MAIN RECOURSE AT MOMENT WOULD SEEM TO BE GENERAL STRIKE IN EFFORT TO PARALYZE CITY, BUT WE HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE OF THIS AS YET. FBIS REPORT OF SAMORA MACHEL'S CALL ON AFRICANS TO CUT OFF ALL SUPPLIES TO "REACTIONARIES" OR CONTINUED AGITATION BY WHITE "MOVEMENT" MEMBERS COULD BRING ABOUT GENERAL STRIKE.

7. CRUX OF PROBLEM IS THAT ALTHOUGH MOVEMENT APPARENTLY

CONFINED MAINLY TO LOURENCO MARQUES AND INITIALLY NOT VERY STRONG, THEY CONTINUE TO CONTROL MAIN MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AND AIR TRAFFIC. POLICE AND PARAMILITARY (WHO NUMBER POSSIBLY 1,000) AND REGULAR MILITARY FORCES IN LM AREA, WHO NUMBER PROBABLY UNDER 1,000, HAVE BEEN VIRTUALLY ABSENT FROM MAIN PART OF CITY. ENGINEER SPRANGER'S STATEMENTS TO CONGEN OFFICER (LOURENCO MARQUES 771) AND OTHER SOURCES INDICATE THAT MANY LEADERS AT LEAST OF POLICE AND PARAMILITARY FORCES SYMPATHIZE WITH MOVEMENT. (BELIEVE VASCONCELOS PORTO, COMMANDER OF OPVDC, AND BRIGADIER MANUEL DE FARIA, COMMANDER OF SECURITY, BOTH SYMPATHIZE AND MIGHT ATTEMPT TO THWART ANY EFFORT BY REGULAR MILITARY TO PUT DOWN MOVEMENT.) PORTUGUESE FORCES IN LOURENCO MARQUES ARE NOT APT TO START SHOOTING AT EACH OTHER, AND ALL CONCERNED WISH TO AVOID CONFRONTATION OF THIS TYPE. SINCE, HOWEVER, NEITHER GOP NOR FRELIMO WILL AGREE TO MEET ALL OF MOVEMENT'S DEMANDS FOR GUARANTEES AND FOR DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, CURRENT IMPASSE COULD CONTINUE FOR SOME TIME, WITH ALL DANGERS OF CIVIL STRIFE PARTICULARLY IN LOURENCO MARQUES. IT APPEARS THAT DECISION WILL REST WITH SPINOLA AND ARMY IN LISBON BUT THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY DECISION TO INTERVENE TO RETAKE TWO RADIO STATIONS AND AIRPORT CONTROL TOWER IN LM IS UNPREDICTABLE.

WALKER

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